



Residency (Post-Doctoral Fellowship)

Forensic Emphasis Positions

TRAINING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Desert Sage Resource Center Postdoctoral Residency in Forensic Psychology is 2,000-hour training program intended to prepare Psychology Postdoctoral Residents for careers in the public and private sectors of forensic psychology which can be completed in one-year or two-years. Our aim is to provide training consistent with a standard of excellence--beyond competence and specialty-level practice. The Residency is designed to prepare Residents to become board certified in Forensic Psychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Our training goals and objectives adhere to the guidelines identified for postdoctoral Residency provided by the American Board of Forensic Psychology (ABFP).

Our aim is to produce top-quality forensic psychologists who can perform a variety of forensic mental health assessments in numerous settings. We emphasize breadth and depth of training by fostering expertise in those types of evaluations most common in the field (e.g., competence to stand trial, criminal responsibility, juvenile forensic evaluations) while providing assessment experience in a variety of settings and numerous subspecialties within forensic psychology. Desert Sage Resource Center, receives private, contract, and court-ordered referrals through multiple facilities and court systems, including psychiatric hospitals, probate court, juvenile court, justice courts, district courts, federal courts, and private attorneys. We conduct evaluations for civil and criminal legal questions. Evaluations are conducted for juveniles and adults in an outpatient setting.

The diversity of our practice is reflected in the two forensic psychologists and consulting forensic psychiatrist. All these various experiences are options in the Residency and training is individualized to the unique interests and career goals of the Resident.

Core Competencies

The Residency emphasizes several training objectives, many of which are inspired by the Core Competencies of Forensic Psychology identified by ABFP.

Desert Sage Resource Center's Residency especially emphasizes the following core competencies:

1. Forensic Ethical Principles and Legal Standards
2. Foundational Knowledge in Forensic Psychology and Mental Health Law
3. Applied Clinical Forensic Skills

4. Specialty Areas of Forensic Mental Health Assessment
5. Multicultural Diversity in Psycholegal Contexts
6. Communication and Consultation
7. Teaching and Supervision in Forensic Psychology
8. Interdisciplinary Professionalism

RESIDENCY CURRICULUM AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The Residency accomplishes the above training goals through various training activities, which are described below.

Applied Clinical Forensic Experiences Desert Sage Resource Center provides evidenced-based psychological/behavioral health assessments, treatment, and consultative services to individuals and governmental and non-governmental agencies through fee-for-service contractual arrangements, workforce service agreements, and participation in preferred provider third-party panels.

In the past 2 years, Desert Sage Resource Center has completed about 250 evaluations per year. Those evaluations have been comprehensive and forensic in nature, requiring multiple evaluative methods, such as extensive records review, interviewing collateral contacts, clinical observations, and psychological testing. Evaluations Residents will spend at least 50% of their time (i.e., a minimum of 1,000 hours) providing direct professional forensic psychological services, including forensic mental health assessments and consultation. Residents may have the opportunity to perform the following types of evaluations (with juveniles and/or adults):

- Competency
 - To stand trial (adult and juvenile)
 - To waive Miranda Rights
 - Guardianship
- Criminal responsibility
 - Not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI)
 - Battered Woman Syndrome
- Disability
 - Social Security disability determination
 - Fitness for duty
 - Worker's compensation
- Risk Assessments
 - Criminal commitment after finding of NGRI
 - Criminal commitment after Incompetent to Stand Trial - Unrestorable
 - Increase in movement in psychiatric hospital settings
 - Conditional release from psychiatric hospital settings
- Family Law
 - Standard Psychological
 - Parental Fitness
 - Parental Risk
 - Adoption Readiness

- Substance Abuse
- Personality / Mood Disorder
- Domestic Violence
- Abuse / Neglect
- Violence risk
 - Sexual offender risk (adult and juvenile)
 - Child abuse
 - School threat
 - Workplace threat
- Civil commitment
 - Treatment amenability
 - Sexually violent predators (SVP)
 - Transfer to adult court (juvenile bind-over)
 - Return to juvenile court (juvenile reverse bind-over)
 - Progress in competency attainment (juveniles)
 - Progress in competency restoration (adults)
 - Diversion program appropriateness (juveniles)
- Treatment in lieu of conviction (adults)
 - Drug court
 - Mental health court
 - Family preservation court
- Comprehensive, court-ordered psychological evaluations to determine diagnosis and treatment needs.

The specific types of evaluations completed and the number of each will be jointly agreed upon by the Resident and the Resident's supervisor, based on the training goals for that Resident. Referrals and Clients Desert Sage Resource Center receives referrals from over two dozen sources, including various courts, District Attorney's Office, and public defender's and other governmental agencies, private employers, and law firms.

Case Law/ Forensic Psychology Seminar

The two component of the Residency consists of four hours of weekly didactic training. These trainings occur primarily on Monday. The training involves case law seminar (1 hour)/forensic psychology seminar weekly (2 hours) Supervision Seminar (1 hours), during which they will receive group supervision related to their current case load and other professional issues. These experiences are designed to deepen the educational experience throughout the Residency year. The following describes the seminar schedule.

Case Law/ Forensic Psychology Seminar is a 90-minute weekly seminar led by Drs Coard and Berger. This seminar provides in-depth discussions of landmark legal cases and includes cases recommended by the credentialing boards of both forensic psychology (ABPP) and psychiatry (AAPL). This seminar will go over each landmark case and the Resident will be asked to present a brief on two cases each week. Residents are expected to take an active role in the teaching of the landmark case seminar. This is an opportunity for Residents to learn how to read and understand case law, and to sharpen their presentation skills. The primary

textbook for this seminar is: *Psychological Evaluations for the Courts-Fourth Edition* (Melton et al., 2018). The Residents will be given a list of readings and are required to complete the assigned readings prior to the didactic.

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
Month 1 September	1. TOPIC: RESIDENCY ORIENTATION	RESIDENCY HANDBOOK MELTON CHPT 1 (LAW & MHPS)	NONE
	2. TOPIC: INTRO TO THE U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM	MELTON CHPT 2 (OVERVIEW OF COURT SYSTEM)	FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULES 401-403 • RULES 501-502 • RULES 701-706 FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULES 26 & 35 FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULES 12.2, 17, & 42
	3. TOPIC: OVERVIEW OF FORENSIC MH SERVICES IN NEVADA	NONE	NONE
	4. TOPIC: CRITICAL PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL FORENSIC PRACTICE	APA ETHICAL PRINCIPLES (2017) SPECIALITY GUIDELINES (2013) MELTON CHPT 4 (ETHICAL CONTOURS)	NONE
Month 2 October	5. TOPIC: CHILD CUSTODY & PARENTING	MELTON CHPT 16 (CHILD CUSTODY IN DIVORCE)	PAINTER V. BANNISTER (1966) LOVING V. VIRGINIA (1967)

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
		APA GUIDELINES FOR CHILD CUSTODY EVALS APA GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE OF PARENTING COORDINATION	SANTOSKY V. KRAMER (1982) TROXEL V. GRANVILLE (2000)
	6. TOPIC: CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT	MELTON CHPT 14 (JUVENILE DELINQUENCY)	BREED V. JONES (1975) GRAHAM V. FLORIDA (2010) MILLER V. ALABAMA (2012) MONTGOMERY V. LOUISIANA (2016) MATHENA V. MALVO (18-217)
	7. TOPIC: SCOPE OF EXPERT TESTIMONY	MELTON CHPT 3 (NATURE & METHOD OF FORENSIC ASSESSMENT) HEILBRUN (1992). THE ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING IN FORENSIC ASSESSMENT.	GRIGGS V. DUKE (1971) HALL V. FLORIDA (2014)
	8. TOPIC: JUDGMENT & BIASES	MURRIE (2009). RATER (DIS)AGREEMENT ON RISK ASSESSMENT MEASURES IN SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR PROCEEDINGS. NEAL & GRISSO (2014).	NONE

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
		<p>THE COGNITIVE UNDERPINNINGS OF BIAS IN FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS. BERRYESSA & WOHLSTETTER (2019).</p> <p>THE PSYCHOPATHIC “LABEL” AND EFFECTS ON PUNISHMENT OUTCOMES: A META-ANALYSIS.</p>	
<p>Month 3 November</p>	<p>9. TOPIC: COMPETENCE TO STAND TRIAL: FOUNDATIONS</p>	<p>MELTON CHPT 6 (CST)</p>	<p>DUSKY V. U.S. (1960) PATE V. ROBINSON (1968) JACKSON V. INDIANA (1972) DROPE V. MISSOURI (1975) COOPER V. OKLAHOMA (1996) NRS §178.400</p>
	<p>10. TOPIC: COMPETENCE TO STAND TRIAL: APPLICATION</p>	<p>ZAPF & ROESCH CHPTS 4, 5, 6 (PREPARATION, DATA COLLECTION, INTERPRETATION)</p>	<p>WILSON V. U.S. (1968) ESTELLE V. SMITH (1981) U.S. V. DUHON (2000) SELL V. U.S. (2003)</p>
	<p>11. TOPIC: VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>OTTO: MONAHAN (VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT)</p>	<p>BAREFOOT V. ESTELLE (1983) JABLONSKI V. U.S. (1983)</p>
	<p>12. TOPIC: ADVANCED VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>DOUGLAS & SKEEM (2005). VRA: GETTING SPECIFIC ABOUT BEING DYNAMIC.</p>	<p>NONE</p>

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
		KRONER ET AL. (2005). A COFFEE CAN... HCR- 20: V3 MANUAL	
Month 4 December	13. TOPIC: SEX OFFENDER ASSESSMENT	OTTO: CONROY & WITT (2013). EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS.	KANSAS V. HENDRICKS (1997) KANSAS V. CRANE (2002) U.S. V. TOM (8TH CIR. 2009) U.S. V. COMSTOCK (2010)
	13. TOPIC: ADULT SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT		
	14. TOPIC: JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT		
	15. TOPIC: EPPP AND LICENSURE	NONE	NONE
Month 5 January	16. TOPIC: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	NONE	NONE
	17. TOPIC: RESPONSE STYLE & MALINGERING	OTTO: ROGERS & BENDER (2013) EVALUATION OF MALINGERING AND RESPONSE STYLES. RESNIK & KNOLL (2018). MALINGERED PSYCHOSIS.	U.S. V. GREER (1998)
	18. TOPIC: FORENSIC ASSESSMENT SUPERVISION	HODGES ET AL. (2019). FORENSIC ASSESSMENT SUPERVISION:	NONE

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
		<p>THEORY AND PRACTICES.</p> <p>FALENDER & SHAFRANSKE (2007). COMPETENCE IN COMPETENCY-BASED SUPERVISION PRACTICE.</p>	
	19. TOPIC: CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY: FOUNDATIONS	MELTON CHPT 8 (MSO)	<p>M'NAGHTEN'S CASE (1843)</p> <p>DURHAM V. U.S. (1954)</p> <p>JONES V. U.S. (1983)</p> <p>KAHLER V. KANSAS (2020)</p> <p>NRS §174.035</p> <p>FINGER V. STATE (2001)</p>
Month 6 February	20. TOPIC: CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY: APPLICATION & ADVANCED ISSUES	OTTO: GOLDSTEIN (EVAL OF CR) PACKER (2009) CHPTS 5 & 6 (DATA COLLECTION & INTERPRETATION)	<p>IBN-TAMAS V. U.S. (1979)</p> <p>AKE V. OKLAHOMA (1985)</p> <p>FOUCHA V. LOUISIANA (1992)</p> <p>MONTANA V. EGELHOF (1996)</p> <p>CLARK V. ARIZONA (2006)</p>
	21. TOPIC: SENTENCING	<p>MELTON CHPT 9 (SENTENCING) GRISSE (2003)</p> <p>CHPT 3 (EMPIRICAL ASSESSMENTS).</p>	<p>FURMAN V. GEORGIA (1972)</p> <p>GREGG V. GEORGIA (1976)</p> <p>WOODSON V. NORTH CAROLINA (1976)</p> <p>FORD V. WAINWRIGHT (1986)</p>

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
	22. TOPIC: DEATH PENALTY	OTTO: CUNNINGHAM & GOLDSTEIN (SENTENCING IN DEATH PENALTY CASES) CUNNINGHAM, M., REIDY, T., & SORENSEN, J. R. (2016). WASTED RESOURCES AND GRATUITOUS SUFFERING: THE FAILURE OF A SECURITY RATIONALE FOR DEATH ROW. PSYCHOLOGY, PUBLIC POLICY, AND LAW, 22, 185-199.	ATKINS V. VIRGINIA (2002) PANETTI V. QUARTERMAN (2007) ROPER V. SIMMONS (2005) MOORE V. TEXAS (2017) MADISON V. ALABAMA (2019)
	23. TOPIC: PRIVILEGE. CONFIDENTIALITY & PROFESSIONAL DUTIES	PACKER & GRISSO CHPT 7 (ETHICS)	TARASOFF V. REGENTS (1976) LIPARI V. SEARS (1980) JAFFE V. REDMOND (1996)
Month 7 March	24. TOPIC: ADMISSIBILITY OF EXPERT TESTIMONY	MELTON CHPT 18 (COMMUNICATION) FAUST ET AL. (2010) ADMISSIBILITY OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE EVIDENCE	FRYE V. U.S. (1923) DAUBERT V. MERRELL DOW (1993) GE V. JOINER (1997) KUMHO TIRE V. CARMICHAEL (1999)
	25. TOPIC: MOCK TRIAL	NONE	NONE
	26. TOPIC: THREAT ASSESSMENT	MELOY, J. R., HART, S. D., & HOFFMAN, J. (2014).	SCHENCK V. U.S. (1919) BRANDENBURG V. OHIO (1969)

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
		THREAT ASSESSMENT AND THREAT MANAGEMENT. CHPT	<p>TINKER V. DES MOINES (1969)</p> <p>WATTS V. U.S. (1969)</p> <p>NEW JERSEY V. T.L.O. (1985)</p> <p>BETHEL SCHOOL V. FRASER (1986)</p> <p>HAZELWOOD SCHOOL DIS. V. KUHLMEIER (1988)</p>
	27. TOPIC: CIVIL COMMITMENT	MELTON CHPT 10 (CIVIL COMMITMENT)	<p>WYATT V. STICKNEY (1972)</p> <p>O'CONNOR V. DONALDSON (1975)</p> <p>ADDINGTON V. TEXAS (1979)</p> <p>YOUNGBERG V. ROMEO (1982)</p>
Month 8 April	28. TOPIC: CIVIL COMPETENCIES	MELTON CHPT 11 (CIVIL COMPETENCIES)	<p>ESTELLE V. GAMBLE (1976)</p> <p>PARHAM V. JR (1979)</p> <p>RENNIE V. KLEIN (1983)</p> <p>WASHINGTON V. HARPER (1990)</p>
	29. TOPIC: PERSONAL INJURY & CIVIL DAMAGES	OTTO: FOOTE & LAREAU (PSYCH EVAL OF EMOTIONAL DAMAGES IN TORT CASES)	<p>CHRISTY BROS. CIRCUS (1928)</p> <p>PALSGRAF V. LONG ISLAND (1928)</p> <p>CARTER V. GENERAL MOTORS (1960)</p> <p>DILLON V. LEGG (1968)</p> <p>MOLIEN V. KAISER (1980)</p> <p>GOUGH V. NATURAL GAS (1993)</p>

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
	30. TOPIC: WORKER'S COMPENSATION & DISABILITY EVALUATIONS	MELTON CHPT 12 (COMPENSATING MENTAL INJURY)	RYANS V. LOWELL (1984) ERVIN V. AMERICAN (1988) MASS MUTUAL V. OUELLETTE (1992) DAMASCUS V. PROVIDENT (1996) BLACK & DECKER V. NORD (2003) BIESTEK V. BERRYHILL (2019)
	31. TOPIC: DISCRIMINATION (ADA)	MELTON CHPT 17 (EDUCATION & HABILITATION)	HARRIS V. FORKLIFT (1993) OLMSTEAD V. L.C. (1999) ONCALE V. SUNDOWNER (1998) RICCI V. DESTEFANO (2009)
Month 9 May	32. TOPIC: OTHER CRIMINAL COMPETENCIES	MELTON CHPT 7 (OTHER COMPETENCIES) GRISSE (2003) CHPT 1 (ADVANCES IN ASSESSMENT).	MIRANDA V. ARIZONA (1966) NORTH CAROLINA V. ALFORD (1970) FARETTA V. CALIFORNIA (1975) COLORADO V. CONNELLY (1986) GODINEZ V. MORAN (1993)
	33. TOPIC: MULTICULTURAL COMPETENCE	SHEPHERD & LEWIS- FERNANDEZ (2016). FORENSIC RISK ASSESSMENT AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.	NONE

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
	34. TOPIC: POLICE PSYCHOLOGY	OTTO: COREY & BORUM (FORENSIC ASSESSMENT IN HIGH-RISK OCCUPATIONS)	NONE
	35. TOPIC: JURY SELECTION & TRIAL CONSULTATION	OTTO: KOVERA (VOIR DIRE AND JURY SELECTION)	NONE
Month 10 June	36. TOPIC: TELE-FORENSIC ASSESSMENTS		
	37. TOPIC: EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY & HEARSAY	OTTO: WELLS & LOFTUS (EYEWITNESS MEMORY FOR PEOPLE & EVENTS)	NEIL V. BIGGERS (1972) WHITE V. ILLINOIS (1992) CRAWFORD V. WASHINGTON (2004) STATE V. HENDERSON (2011) PERRY V. NEW HAMPSHIRE (2012)
	38. TOPIC: HYPNOSIS & MEMORY RECOVERY	SCHEFLIN (2006). FORENSIC USE OF HYPNOSIS. IN WEINER & HESS HANDBOOK OF FORENSIC PSYCH.	STATE V. HURD (1980) PEOPLE V. SHIRLEY (1982) ROCK V. ARKANSAS (1992)
	39. TOPIC: TREATMENT IN FORENSIC CONTEXTS	DVOSKIN ET AL. (2007). CORRECTIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. IN GOLDSTEIN: FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY.	BAXSTROM V. HEROLD (1966) VITEK V. JONES (1980) FARMER V. BRENNAN (1994)
Month 11	40. TOPIC: FORENSIC NEUROPSYCHOLO	BUSH, S. S., & MORGAN, J. E. (2012).	NONE

DATE	TOPICS	DIDACTIC READINGS	STATUTES & CASE LAW
July	GY: FOUNDATIONS AND ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS	ETHICAL PRACTICE IN FORENSIC NEUROPSYCHOLOGY	
	41. TOPIC: PRIVATE SECTOR FORENSIC WORK	MELTON CHPT 5 (MANAGING PUBLIC & PRIVATE FORENSIC SERVICES)	NONE
	42. TOPIC: ADULT SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT 2	To be determined	To be determined
	43. TOPIC: ADULT SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT 3	To be determined	To be determined
Month 12 August	44. TOPIC: JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT 2	To be determined	To be determined
	45. TOPIC: JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT 3	To be determined	To be determined
	46. TOPIC: To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
	47. TOPIC: To be determined	To be determined	To be determined

Supervision Seminar occurs on a weekly basis and is led by Dr. Coard. This seminar is the mechanism for the provision of formal supervision for both Residents. During formal supervision sessions, Residents will not only have an opportunity to discuss their current case load, but they will also be given an opportunity to discuss a variety of professional issues as they arise during the Residency year. In addition to group supervision, formal supervision occurs on every forensic case. Forensic Residents work closely with faculty to develop comprehensive, well-reasoned forensic reports. As part of this process, Residents will work

with their supervisor regarding psychological testing, clinical diagnoses, and opinions related to the referral question(s).

The following is an abbreviated list of DSRC's current clients:

- **State Public Defender, Clark County District Attorney's Office, State Public Defender Office, and Elko County Public Defender**
 - Transfer to adult court (bind-over) Services also include providing competence attainment to juveniles adjudicated incompetent to stand trial.
 - Competency to stand trial
 - Insanity evaluations
 - Psychosexual evaluations
 - Risk assessments
 - Child protection evaluations (NRS 432B)
 - Juvenile competency to stand trial
 - Juvenile sex offender evaluations
 - Juvenile sex offender treatment
 - Adult sex offender treatment
- **Elko County Juvenile Probation**
 - Evaluations routinely include assessment for the following:
 - Competence to stand trial
 - Diagnostic clarification and treatment needs
 - Return to juvenile court (reverse bind-over)
 - Progress in competence attainment
 - Psychological functioning
 - Transfer to adult court (bind-over) Services also include providing competence attainment to juveniles adjudicated incompetent to stand trial.

The Residents assume responsibility for providing clinical forensic evaluations of children and families to aid the Court in making informed disposition decisions related to family court matters. The staff includes full-time and part-time licensed psychologists, contractual consultants, and doctoral level clinical psychology interns who conduct testing and prepare reports for the Court. A psychiatric consultant is available in a case-by-case basis. Staff are available for consultations with attorneys, hearing officers, caseworkers, and guardian ad litem. They also present expert testimony as required. The evaluation will be assigned to a licensed psychologist and forensic psychology Resident who will be supervised by a licensed psychologist with forensic psychology experience. All staff employed either directly by the clinic or who are consultants with the clinic are licensed with the State of Nevada and have expertise preparing evaluations in a Court setting.

The main purpose of the evaluation is to provide the Court with information and to make recommendations regarding the person(s) evaluated. The report usually covers areas such as:

what is going on mentally, emotionally, addictions with the person(s) evaluated;

what are the special needs of the person(s), if any, which should be addressed; and what would be an appropriate treatment/placement plan decision.

Typically, the report of the evaluation is sent to the judge or referee who ordered it. The reports constitute confidential information, and it is policy of the Desert Sage Resource Center Family Court Psychological Clinic not to release such documents to the person(s) evaluated (or their parents). The clinician, however, can give feedback on the results of the evaluation to individuals who request it.

Residents will be expected to become proficient in one or more tests from each of the following categories:

Adjudicative Competence

The Competence Assessment for Standing Trial for Defendants with Mental Retardation (CAST*MR)

Evaluation of Competency to Stand Trial-Revised (ECST-R)

Juvenile Adjudicative *Competence* Interview (JACI)

The MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool–Criminal Adjudication (Mac-CAT-CA)

Personality Traits and Psychopathology

Jesness Inventory–Revised (JI-R)

Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory - Fourth Edition (MCMI-IV)

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI-2-RF / MMPI-A-RF / MMPI-2 / MMPI-3)

Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI / PAI-A)

Psychopathy Checklist or Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R)

Sex Offender Risk Assessment

Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol-II (J-SOAP-II)

Minnesota Sex Offender Screening Tool-Revised (MnSOST-R)

Sex Offender Risk Appraisal Guide (SORAG)

Static-99 / 99R / 2002 / 2002R

STABLE 2007

ACUTE 2007

Symptom Validity

Inventory of Legal Knowledge (ILK)

Structured Inventory of Malingered Symptomatology (SIMS)

Structured Interview of Reported Symptoms, 2nd Edition (SIRS-2)

Test of Memory Malingered (TOMM)

Validity Indicator Profile (VIP)

Violence Risk Assessment

Historical-Clinical-Risk Management-20, Version 3(HCR-20-V3)

Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY)

Violence Risk Appraisal Guide—Revised (VRAG-R)

Additionally, Desert Sage Resource Center’s test library consists of numerous tests of intellectual and cognitive functioning; language, development, and adaptive functioning; academic achievement; behavior, emotional functioning, and attachment; autism; substance abuse; and trauma.

Forensic Psychology and Landmark Case Seminar

In addition to practical training in forensic mental health assessment, the Residency offers weekly seminars. These are dedicated to a critical review of foundational theoretical readings, empirical studies in the field of forensic psychology, and a review and critical discussion of landmark mental health law cases. Residents will be assigned readings and will be responsible for preparing case law briefs each week. It is our hope that these case briefs will be the basis of a study guide for the Residents in preparation for the ABFP Written Examination. Topics cover the 23 content areas in forensic psychology identified in the ABFP Suggested Reading List for Written and Oral Examinations.

These seminars will be facilitated by psychologists in the practice (who occasionally may be accompanied by guest speakers) with expertise in the subject area. All reading materials and cases will be available to Residents at no cost for educational purposes. Additionally, Residents will have access to an extensive library of seminal forensic psychology texts. Please see the Appendix at the end of this Handbook for the tentative seminar schedule for the upcoming Residency year. Trainings and Workshops In addition to the weekly seminars,

Residents are offered an education stipend and administrative leave days to assist with the time and cost of these opportunities (see “Stipend and Benefits” below). Expert Testimony Residents will have the opportunity to observe and participate in expert testimony for various types of evaluations in many types of courts, potentially including juvenile court, probate court, justice court, and district court.

Additionally, the Residency will host a Mock Trial Workshop at the mid-point of the training year. Residents will be required to testify on one of the evaluations they conducted during the Residency year. The mock trial will take place in an actual courtroom, pending permission and availability from the Court, and will be facilitated by at least one practicing attorney and at least

one psychologist in the practice with expertise in the type of evaluation being addressed. Following the exercise, the Resident will receive feedback on multiple criteria, including adequate preparation and knowledge of the case, professional demeanor, quality of testimony (e.g., clarity and accuracy), non-verbal mannerisms, and personal reactions to stress. These domains will also be addressed in actual expert testimony performed by Residents, which will always be observed by the case supervisor. In both circumstances, mock and real testimony, an emphasis will be placed on the Resident's presentation style as much as their familiarity with the case.

Teaching and Supervision

The Residency recognizes the importance of disseminating information and providing high-quality supervision in forensic psychology. As such, various teaching opportunities will be made available to Residents who desire this experience. This could include giving a case presentation or research talk to the practice, presenting for a professional psychology or lawyer association. In addition to the Residency, the practice provides training and supervision to undergraduate volunteers, graduate-level externs, and predoctoral interns at Desert Sage Resource Center. These trainees perform various functions for the practice, such as conducting psychosocial interviews, administering psychological testing, and drafting portions of forensic reports. Residents are encouraged to pursue experience in the provision of supervision with trainees in various stages of their forensic training.

SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION

The Residency is dedicated to preparing Residents for the realities and expectations of independent forensic practice. Training emphasizes increased autonomy over the Residency year. Supervision will initially focus on developing the Resident's ability to write high-quality reports and gradually transition to an emphasis on enhancing writing efficiency. By the end of the Residency year, Residents will feel prepared to produce excellent reports at a rate that is expected for full-time evaluators in the public or private sector.

A minimum of two hours of face-to-face supervision is provided to Residents per week. Additionally, on-site supervision is provided in a manner consistent with the comfort, experience, and training needs of each Resident. All supervision is provided by a licensed psychologist affiliated with Desert Sage Resource Center who has extensive expertise in the type of evaluation being conducted.

Group supervision will occur in several ways: It will be woven into forensic didactics and case law seminars, which will integrate case presentations and consultation into the topic being taught, as well as bi-weekly case consultation meetings on the service. Each Resident will undergo a formal written evaluation every quarter to ensure the Resident is maximizing their unique training, meeting their professional goals, and receiving feedback regarding the satisfactory completion of the requirements for passing the Residency.

Quarterly Reviews are conducted by the Resident's immediate supervisor and reviewed by Dr. Coard. Our review process is empirically informed by recent research on forensic assessment supervision practices in the field (Hodges, Beinemann, & Vincent, 2019). Evaluations identify

the strengths and limitations of the Resident's progress across several domains (e.g., applied clinical forensic skills, forensic conceptualization, professional development).

Our Residency recognizes the "allegiance effect" (i.e., an implicit evaluator bias to favor the opinion of the retaining party) as a particularly relevant factor when pursuing private practice forensic work. Therefore, Residents will be required to log all their forensic opinions using a Case Tracker (designed by the practice), which will augment supervision and inform Quarterly Reviews. Our hope is that this practice will serve as a foundational skill that Residents will carry forward into their careers.